<u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 1-43 are pending in the application. Claims 1-23 are allowed.

Claims 24-43 stand rejected. Claims 6, 7, 24 and 35 are amended. Claims 28-29 and 39-40 are canceled. No new matter is added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the amendment and further in view of the following remarks.

Claim Informality Objections

The Examiner objects to claims 28-29 and 39-40 under 37 CFR §1.75 as being substantial duplicates of claims 24 and 35, respectively. The Examiner notes that when two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim.

The Examiner finds that claims 24 and 35 are drawn to an apparatus whereas claims 28, 29, 39 and 40 each recite temperature conditions during a polymerization process. It is not clear to the Examiner from the antecedent disclosure what if any structural limitation(s) is added to the apparatus of claims 24 and 35 by recitation of temperature conditions in an intended use thereof.

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner pointing out this concern and would respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the fact that dependent claims 28, 29, 39 and 40 have been cancelled herein without prejudice to Applicants' right to present such claims at a later time in a continuing application. It is respectfully submitted that these cancellations overcome the subject objection. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 24-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner found that claims 24 and 35 each provide the limitation to "the at least partially cured polymer ...". The Examiner asserts that there is inadequate antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

Further, the Examiner found that claims 29 and 40 each provide the limitation to "the polymerization temperature", which lacks proper antecedent basis in the respective parent claims.

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner pointing out these concerns.

The Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to the amendments to claims 24 and 35 herein where the phrase "the at least partially cured polymer ..." has been changed to "an at least partially cured polymer ..." to correct the antecedent basis problem.

The Examiner's attention is further respectfully directed to the fact that claims 29 and 40 have been cancelled herein as discussed above.

However, further the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to the amendments to claims 6 and 7 where the phrase "the polymerization temperature" has been changed to "a polymerization temperature" to correct a possible antecedent basis concern with those claims.

It is respectfully submitted that all of these changes were made to correct inadvertent clerical problems and not for any reason substantially related to patentability. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and arguments presented above overcome all of the rejections. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully reminded of his duty to indicate allowable subject matter. The Examiner is invited to call the Applicants'

attorney at the number below for any reason, especially any reason that may help, advance the prosecution.

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Respectfully submitted,

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